

Vol. XI. No. 8

NOVEMBER, 1917

The ^{NOV 3 1917 UNIV. OF MISSOURI LIBRARY}Playground

War-Camp Community-Recreation Service

The spirit with which our soldiers leave America, and their efficiency on the battle fronts of Europe, will be vitally affected by the character of the environment surrounding our military training camps.

Woodrow Wilson

Twenty-five Cents a Copy

Two Dollars a Year

The Playground

Published monthly at Cooperstown, New York

for the

Playground and Recreation Association of America
1 Madison Avenue, New York City

Membership

Any person contributing five dollars or more shall be a member
of the Association for the ensuing year

WAR-CAMP COMMUNITY-RECREATION SERVICE

"The Commission on Training Camp Activities asks the Playground and Recreation Association of America to be responsible for the work of stimulating and aiding communities in the neighborhood of training camps to develop and organize their social and recreational resources in such a way as to be of the greatest possible value to the officers and soldiers in the camps."

Voted by the Commission on Training Camp Activities, May 5, 1917

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Commission on Training Camp Activities
Washington

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War Recreation Service

*A Country-wide Experiment
in Cooperation*

In the October issue of the *Playground* are described the aims, purposes and some of the accomplishments of the work undertaken by the *Playground and Recreation Association of America* at the request of the War Department Commission on Training Camp Activities, in helping cities near the camps organize their resources for the benefit of the soldiers in their free time.

Price, 25 Cents

A Letter from President Wilson

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

16 August, 1917

My Dear Mr. Lee:

Mr. Fosdick has told me of the excellent work of the Playground and Recreation Association of America in conjunction with the War Department Commission on Training Camp Activities, and I am writing to express my keen appreciation of the value of this unique and excellent service. The spirit with which our soldiers leave America, and their efficiency on the battle fronts of Europe, will be vitally affected by the character of the environment surrounding our military training camps. I understand that your Association finds it necessary to raise funds to carry on your work, and I earnestly hope that you will be successful in this endeavor. Perhaps the local Chambers of Commerce in the cities and towns throughout the country could be appealed to with entire propriety to assist you in this matter. In any event, let me assure you of my warm support.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) WOODROW WILSON

Mr. Joseph Lee
101 Tremont Street
Boston, Massachusetts

A Brief Statement of What the War-Camp Community-Recreation Service Is Trying to Do

ABBIE CONDIT, Assistant, Playground and Recreation Association of America

To make the cities near the training camps the best possible places for the soldiers in their free time; to organize the social and recreational life of the communities so that it shall contribute to the mental, moral and physical efficiency of the men in the training camps, is the task placed upon the Playground and Recreation Association of America by the War Department Commission on Training Camp Activities.

No matter how attractive the facilities at camp, or how comprehensive the program of activities planned for their entertainment, it is natural that after the routine and monotony of camp life, after its "dress, and drill and mess," the soldiers in their free hours should rush to the nearest cities where the lights are bright, the streets full of new faces, and everything is different from camp. To see to it that the recreation provided in these cities shall be clean and wholesome, that there shall be channels opened through which the soldiers may find substitutes for the normal relationships of life from which they have been suddenly cut off, to make it possible for them to meet the townspeople, and to provide an antidote for homesickness, depression, and the social loneliness which is so real a menace to the moral strength of the men—all these are phases of the problems which must be met by the community organizers who are being sent by the Association to stir the cities near the camps to a realization of their responsibility toward the men who are their guests.

In this work of fostering and conserving the men's natural relations to the world outside, it is the task of the community organizer, through the organization of a central committee, with a number of sub-committees, to coordinate the activities of each organization and group of people touching and controlling in any way the resources of the community. Churches and fraternal orders are being stimulated to entertain their members in the camps. Socials and entertainments are being arranged where the soldiers may meet the young women of the community. Entertainment of the soldiers in the homes of the citizens is one of the most popular features of the hospitality program in the various cities. Public resources of the cities such as swimming pools, shower baths and baseball fields have been placed at the disposal of the men. Provision is being made for the comfort of the soldiers and their guests through the installation of comfort stations and drinking fountains, and through the listing of available sleeping accommodations. Rest rooms and "khaki clubs" are being established; directories of points of interest, hotels, and lodging houses are being published. Automobile rides for the soldiers, community sings and band concerts are being given. In every way possible the cities' resources are being made available for the soldiers in their free time, in an effort to add to their comfort and happiness, and to send them out with the feeling that American cities and the American people are standing back of them.

Nearly eighty communities are being helped in their efforts to play hostess to the thousands of men in khaki in camp near them. Over eighty workers sent out by the Playground and Recreation Association of America are now at work in the cities, blazing a new trail in the conduct of the world war.

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



Methodist Church, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

MOTHERS ARE POPULAR IN THE SOLDIERS' RECREATION ROOMS

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



396

Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
MR. AND MRS. MCALLISTER ENTERTAINING YOUNG SOLDIERS

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



Chattanooga, Tennessee
BOYD FAMILY ENTERTAINING SOLDIERS AT THEIR HOME SUNDAY AFTERNOON

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



Chattanooga, Tennessee

GIRLS ENTERTAINING SOLDIERS IN THEIR OWN HOME

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



Country Club, Chattanooga, Tennessee

SATURDAY EVENING DINNER

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



400

Community Club, Chattanooga, Tennessee
SATURDAY NIGHT DANCE—WOMEN HOSTESSES TO OFFICERS

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



Presbyterian Church, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
A SOCIAL EVENING IN THE CHURCH

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

HOSPITAL TENTS



Chattanooga, Tennessee

LADIES OF CHATTANOOGA HOSTESSES TO SICK
SOLDIERS FOR AN AFTERNOON'S MOTORING



Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

TAKING SICK SOLDIERS FOR AUTOMOBILE RIDE

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

OFFICERS' FAMILIES MAKING THEIR HOME IN THE
ACADEMY, USUALLY CLOSED FOR THE SUMMER



Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

ACADEMY USUALLY CLOSED FOR SUMMER, OPENED
THIS YEAR AS A HOME FOR OFFICERS AND THEIR
FAMILIES

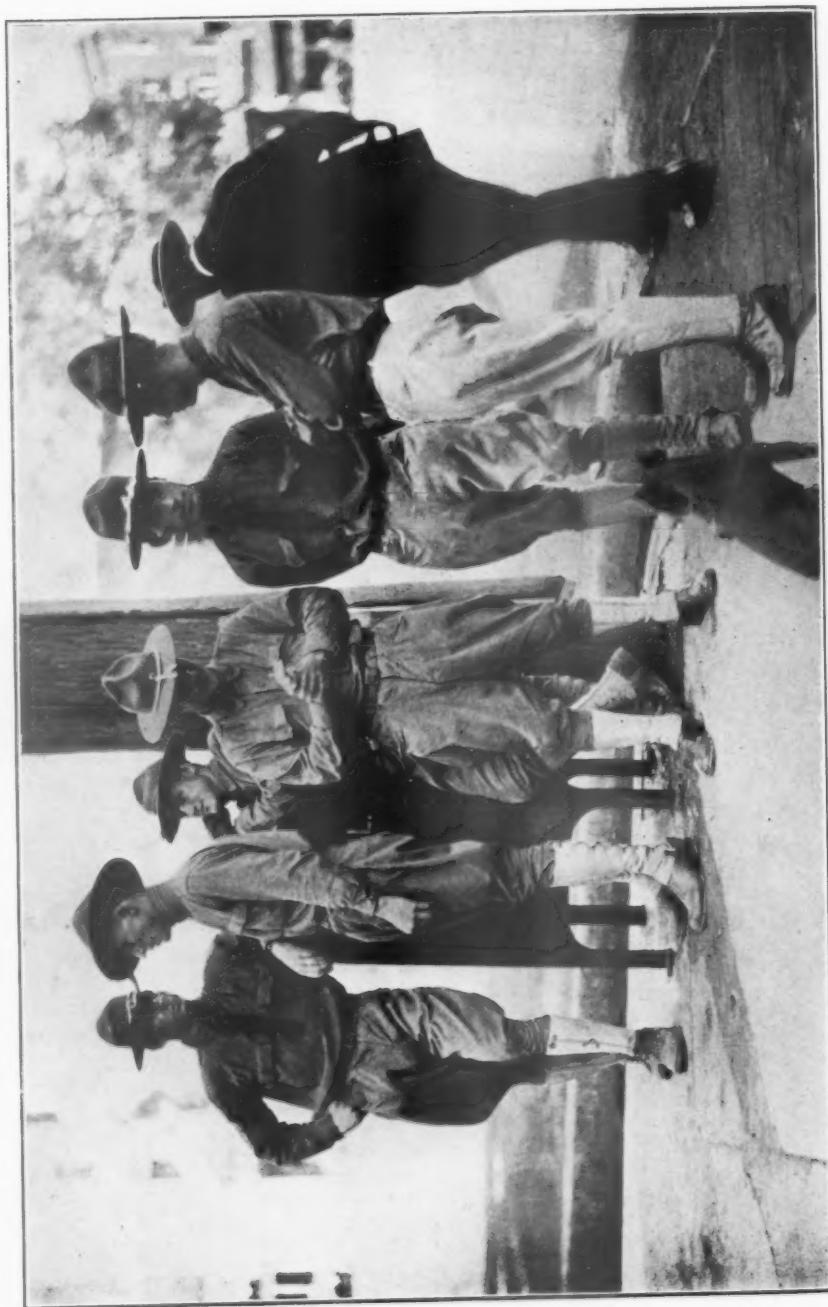
WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



Chattanooga, Tennessee

SOLDIERS WELCOMED AT CHURCH

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

ON THE STREET CORNER

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



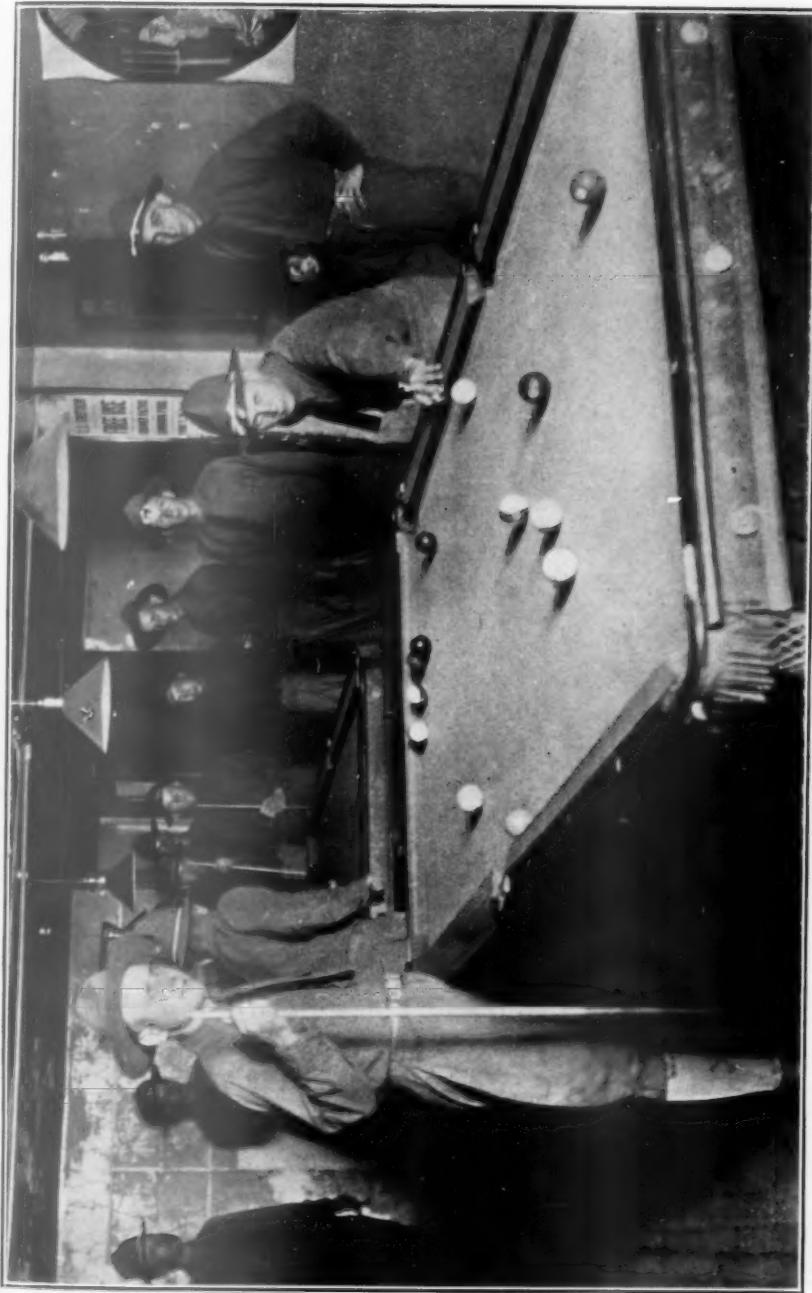
Red Cross Room, Lutheran Church, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
PLAYING CHECKERS

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



Red Cross Room, Lutheran Church, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
AROUND THE PIANO

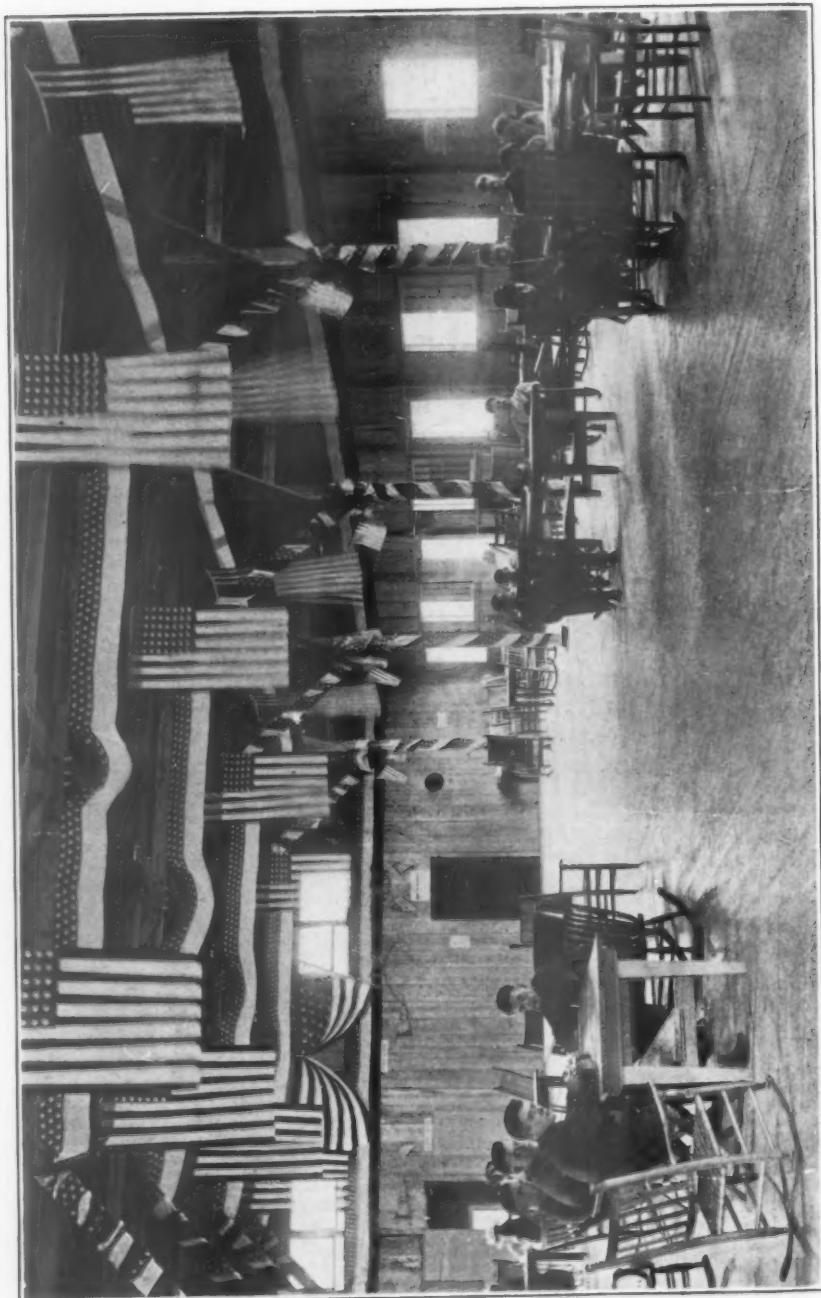
AROUND THE PIANO



POOL ROOM FOR SOLDIERS

Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



Junction City, Kansas

A SPECIAL COMMUNITY CLUB BUILT FOR THE SOLDIERS

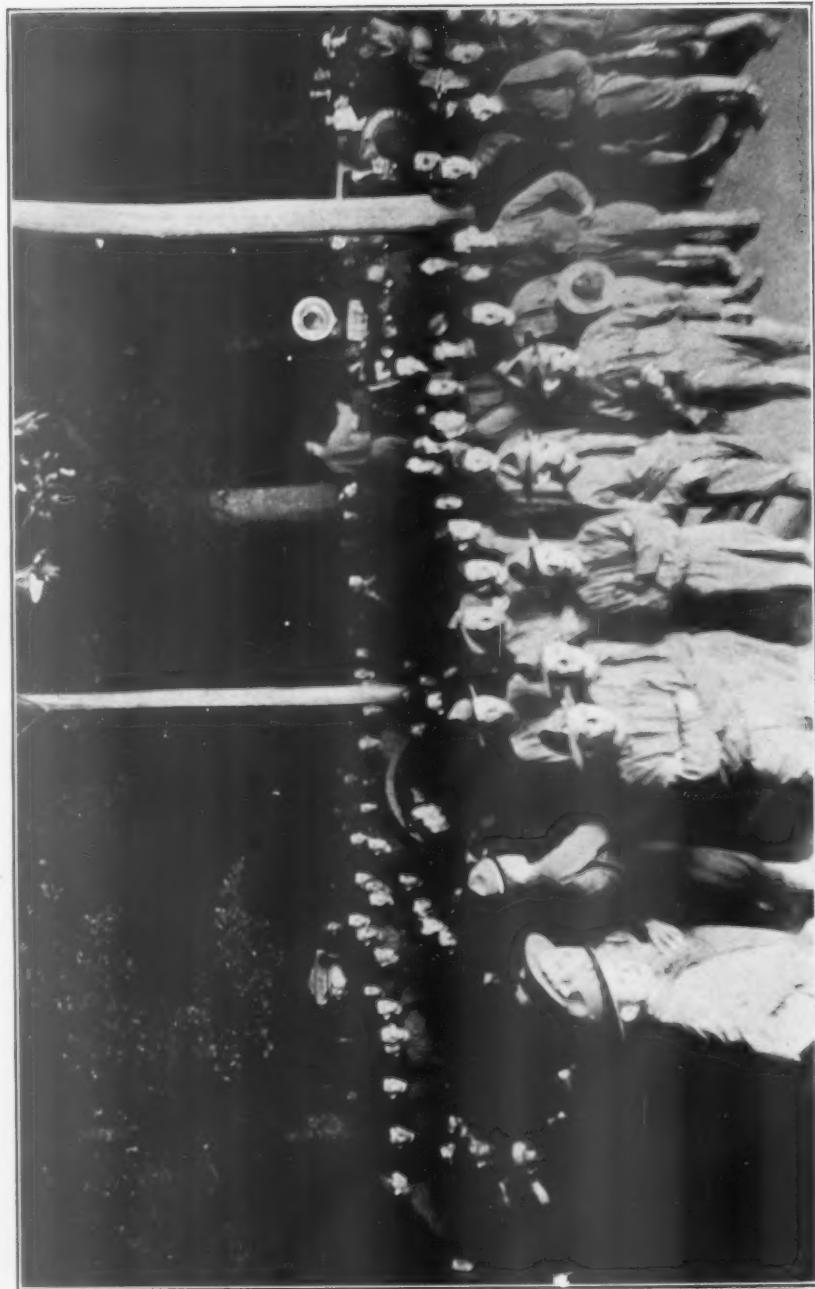
WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



St. Xavier's, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

WEEKLY VAUDEVILLE CONDUCTED BY FATHER BOYLE

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



Chattanooga, Tennessee
BAND CONCERT GIVEN EVERY TUESDAY BY WOMEN'S COUNCIL OF NATIONAL DEFENSE

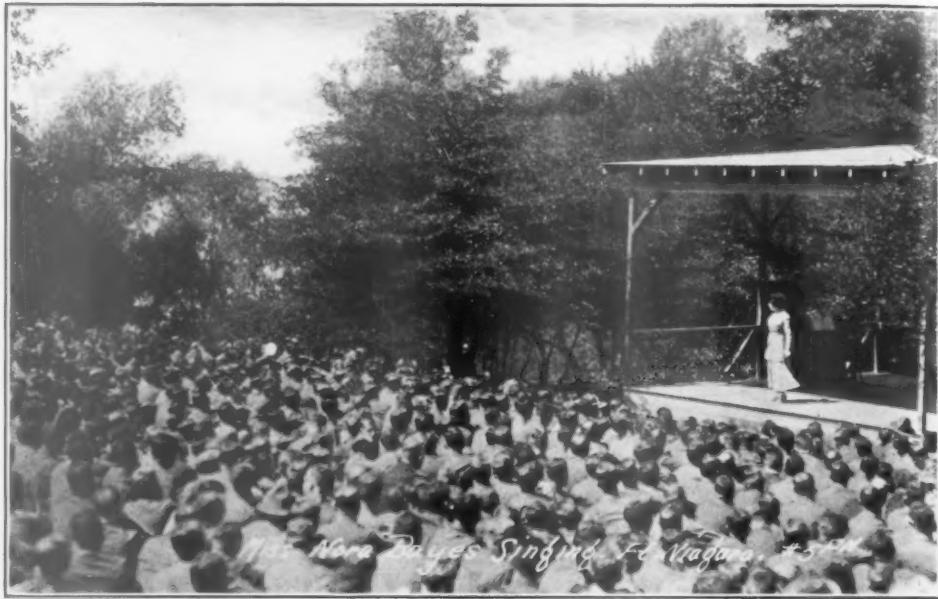
WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



Recreation Room, Baptist Church, Chattanooga, Tennessee

HUNDREDS OF SOLDIERS ATTENDING CHURCH SOCIAL

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



Fort Niagara, New York

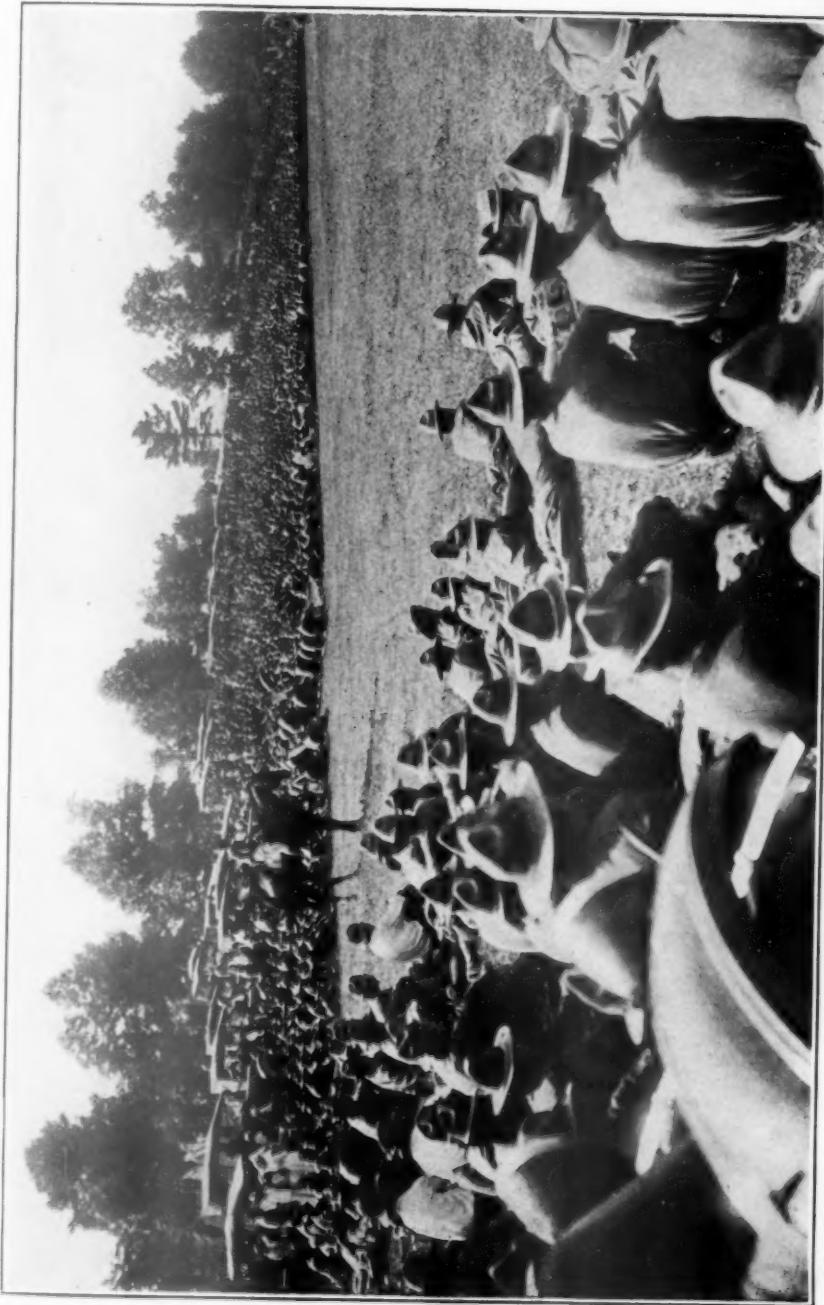
THE COMMUNITY ORGANIZER SECURED MISS NORA
BAYES TO SING FOR THE SOLDIERS WITHIN THE CAMP
AT FORT NIAGARA



First Baptist Church, Chattanooga, Tennessee

AFTER CHURCH

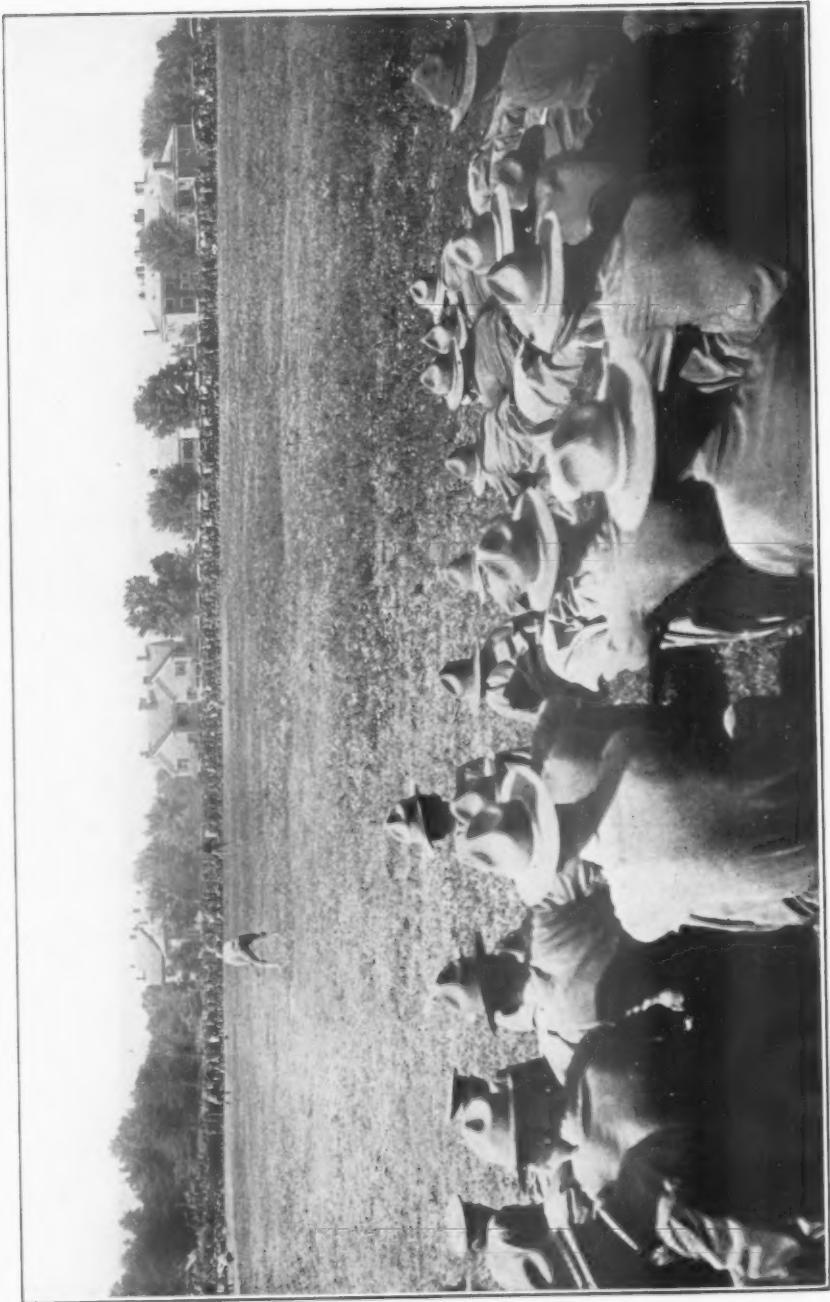
WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia

FORT OGLETHORPE vs. FORT MCPHERSON, FOURTH OF JULY BASEBALL

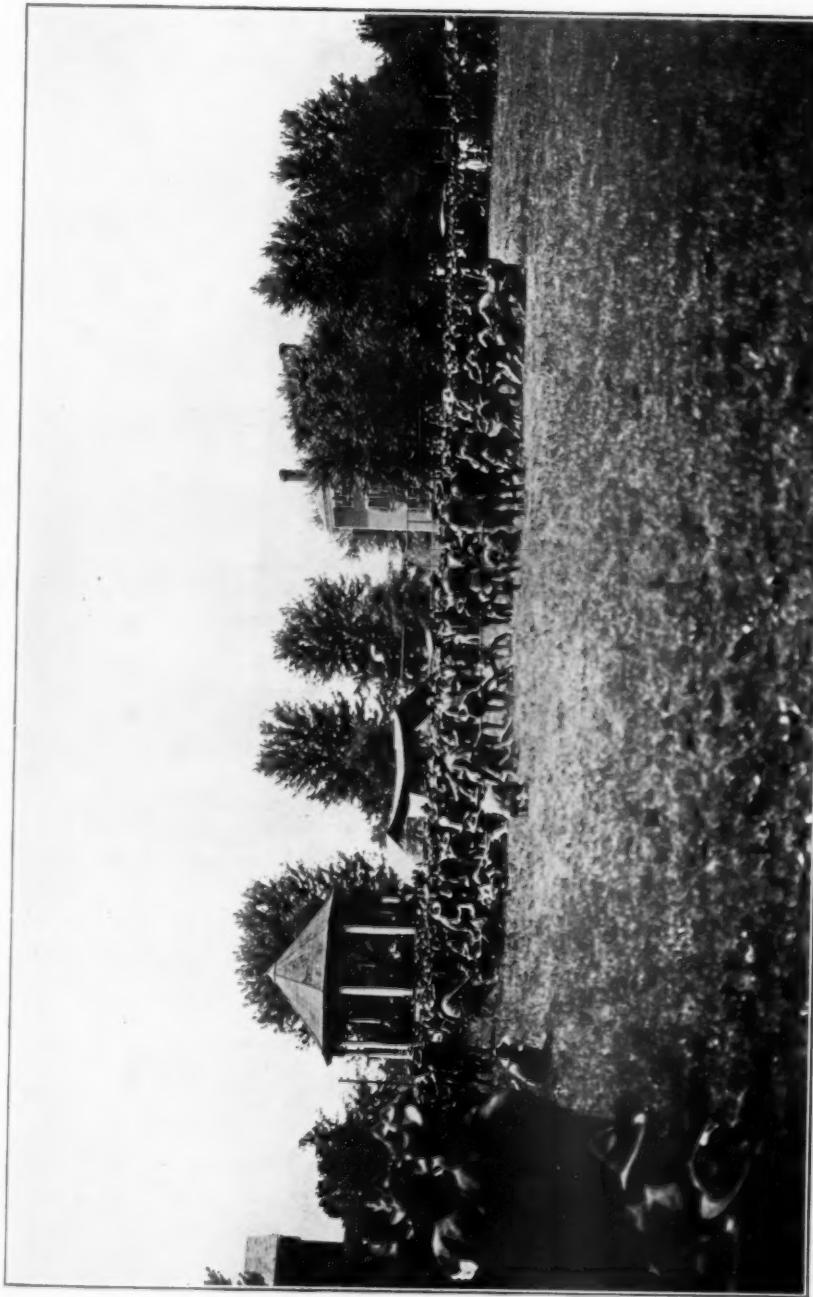
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Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia

BASEBALL, JULY THE FOURTH

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia

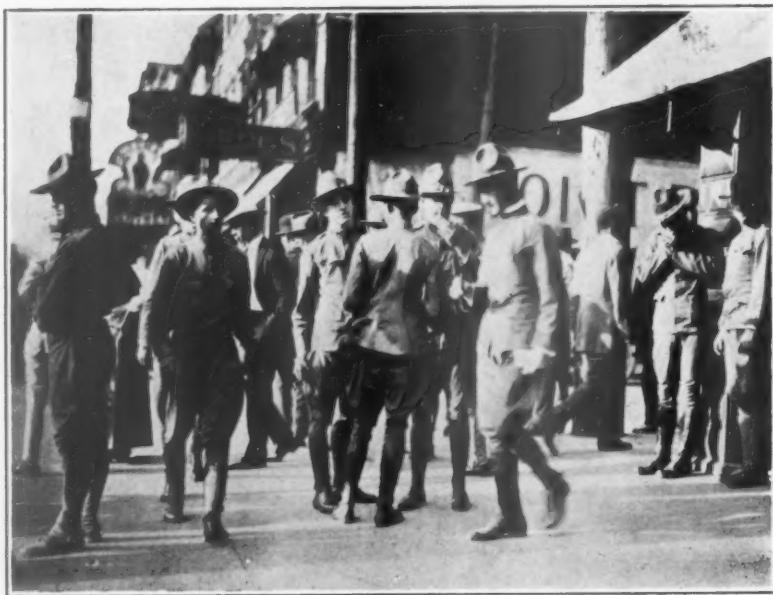
SIXTH INFANTRY, REGULARS, BEATS THE ELEVENTH CAVALRY IN FINALS OF THE FOURTH OF JULY
TUG-OF-WAR

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia

MULE RACE



Chattanooga, Tennessee

SEEKING RECREATION

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



Chattanooga, Tennessee

STREET CORNER "HANG OUT." SOLDIERS SEEKING
RECREATION SATURDAY AFTERNOON



Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia

U. S. REGULARS IN TUG-OF-WAR

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



Indianapolis, Indiana

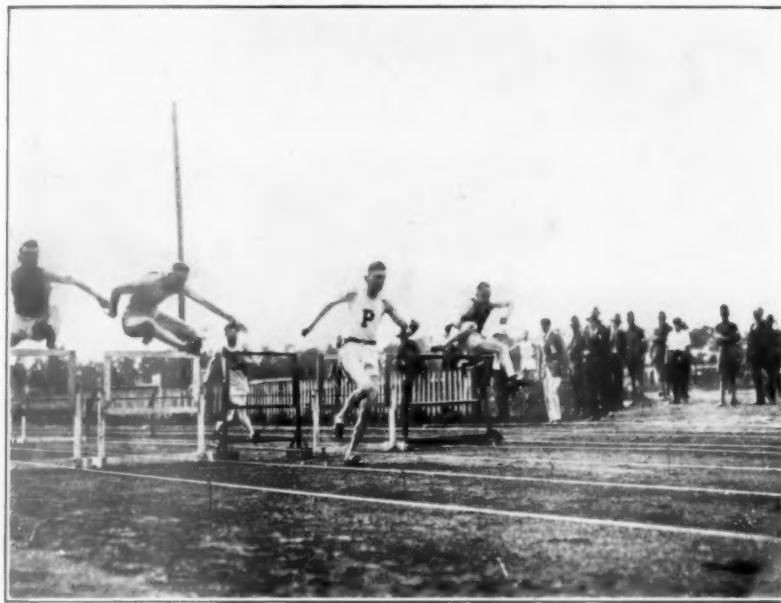
A FULL GRAND STAND FOR THE SOLDIERS' ATHLETIC EVENTS



Indianapolis, Indiana

TUG-OF-WAR

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



Indianapolis, Indiana

THE HURDLERS



Indianapolis, Indiana

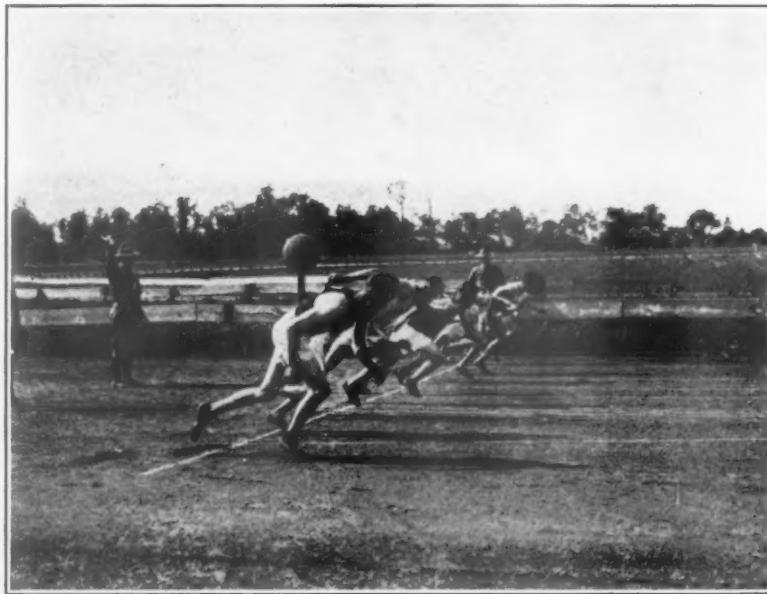
POLE VAULT

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



Chattanooga, Tennessee

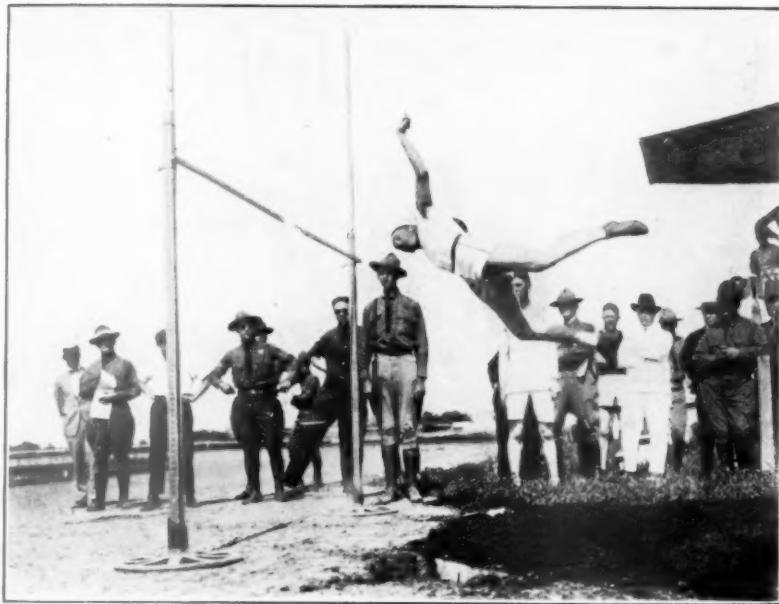
SATURDAY AFTERNOON



Indianapolis, Indiana

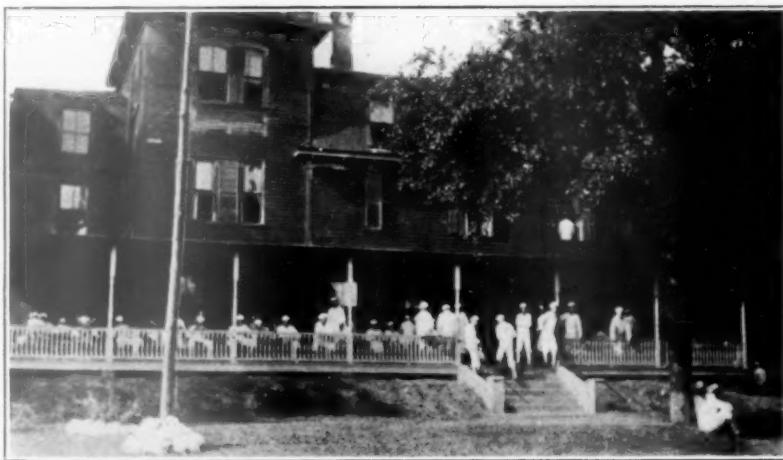
THE SPRINT

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



Indianapolis, Indiana

THE HIGH JUMP



Coddington Point, Newport, Rhode Island

THIS CLUBHOUSE OF FIFTY ROOMS WITH 125 ACRES OF LAND AND A LARGE GROVE OF TREES WAS GRANTED FOR RECREATION PURPOSES BY THE REALTY COMPANY WHICH OWNS IT. THE EXPENSES OF RUNNING THE CLUB, \$350 PER MONTH, HAVE BEEN UNDERWRITTEN BY A LOCAL ORGANIZATION, THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF THE WAR RECREATION SECRETARY

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



Coddington Point, Newport, Rhode Island

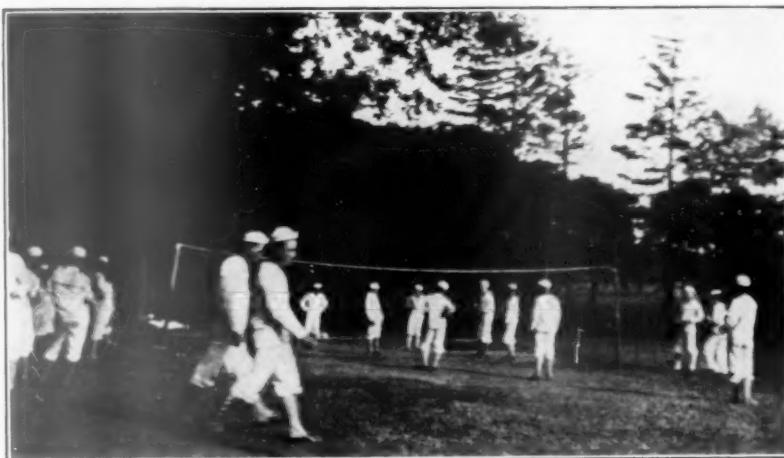
THE BOYS FURNISH THEIR OWN MUSIC AT CODDINGTON POINT



Coddington Point, Newport, Rhode Island

BRIDGE BUILT BY THE MEN, WITH PERMISSION OF THE GOVERNMENT, ACROSS THE CREEK WHICH SEPARATES THE CLUBHOUSE FROM THE TRAINING STATION

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



Coddington Point, Newport, Rhode Island

VOLLEY BALL COURT



Coddington Point, Newport, Rhode Island

WRITING LETTERS IN THE GROVE

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



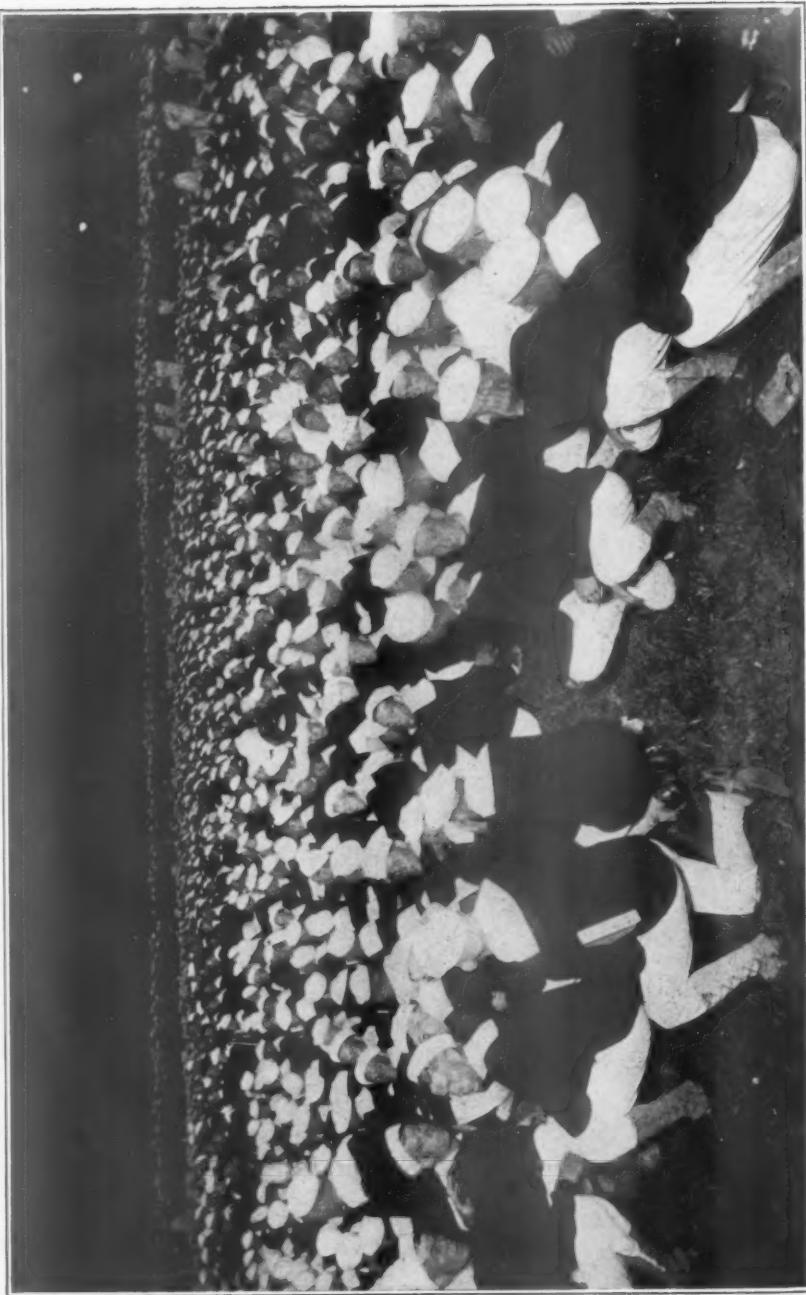
Coddington Point, Newport, Rhode Island
NO DOUBT ABOUT THE POPULARITY OF THE CLUB
ABOUT ONE HUNDRED HAMMOCKS HAVE BEEN HUNG IN THE GROVE FOR THE COMFORT OF THE MEN AND
THEIR GUESTS



Coddington Point, Newport, Rhode Island

AN EVENING'S ENTERTAINMENT ON THE CLUBHOUSE GROUNDS

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE

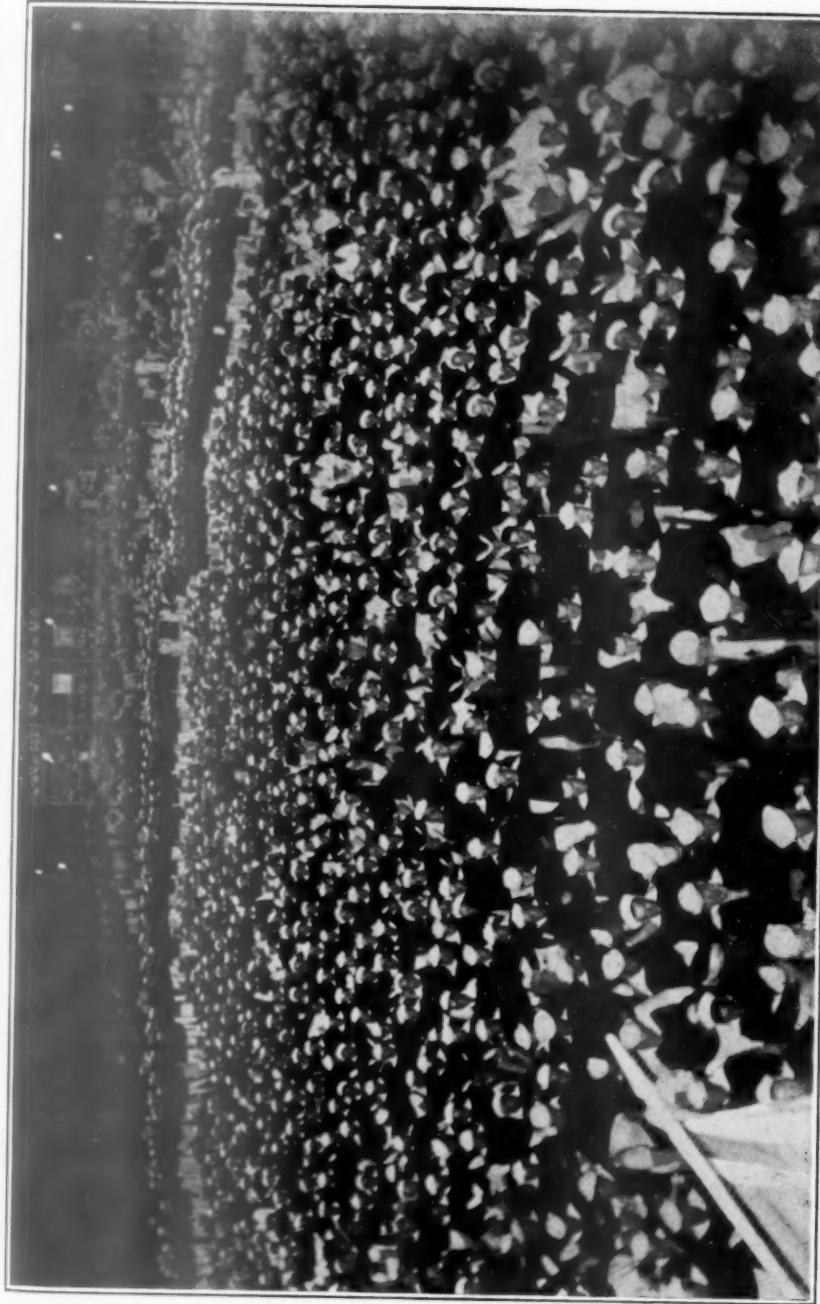


Coddington Point, Newport, Rhode Island

SOMETIMES FIVE THOUSAND SAILORS AND MARINES ARE TOGETHER AT ONE TIME ON THE
CODDINGTON POINT CLUB GROUNDS

SOMETIMES FIVE THOUSAND SAILORS AND MARINES ARE TOGETHER AT ONE TIME ON THE CODDINGTON POINT CLUB GROUNDS

WAR CAMP COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICE



Coddington Point, Newport, Rhode Island

THEIR OWN CLUBHOUSE

MOTION PICTURES have come to be the ideal form of entertainment for mixed audiences. The right kind of motion picture simplifies the problem of the Playground and Recreation Association in securing entertainment for communities in the neighborhood of training camps.

Committees who are planning diversion for these centers will want to include EDISON CONQUEST PICTURES on their program, because they contain everything that is worth while, bright, stimulating stories and other subjects, artistically photographed, and of peculiar interest to everyone.

A few sample CONQUEST programs may illustrate the value of these pictures.

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"Skylarking on Skiis"	
"He Couldn't Get Up in the Morning"	1 reel
"Captains of Tomorrow"	

PROGRAM NO. 2

"Knights of the Square Table"	4 reels
"Farmer Alfalfa and His Wayward Pup"	1 reel
"Your Flag and My Flag"	
"The Making of 100-Ton Guns"	1 reel
"What Form Means to an Athlete"	
"The Story of the Willow Plate"	1 reel

PROGRAM NO. 3

"Billy and the Big Stick"	4 reels
"Two Kentucky Boys"	2 reels
"Climbing Mt. Washington"	1 reel
"Gathering Bananas and Cocoanuts"	

PROGRAM NO. 4

"The Half-Back"	3 reels
"The Boy Who Cried Wolf"	2 reels
"Playing in Florida"	
"Crystals in Formation"	1 reel
"The Joy Rider of the Ocean"	
"In Love's Laboratory"	1 reel

The "STAR SPANGLED BANNER," reproduced from the story by Mary Raymond Shipman Andrews, a patriotic film of no little merit, should prove ideal for this purpose.

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In the great encampments, where the men are to be trained, modern recreation experts are to provide wholesome and attractive amusements for their leisure, so that when they come out of the army they will have no scars except those honorably won in warfare against the enemy of their country.

Newton D. Baker